THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. It has been reported by the Government of Maharashtra that the construction of farm ponds is one of the components of the Integrated Watershed Development Programme being implemented in Maharashtra under the State Plan. The response of the farmers to this scheme is satisfactory. During 1997-98, 1675 farm ponds have been constructed.

(c) and (d) As per the previous guidelines, 20% contribution from the beneficiary was compulsory. As a result, there was some resistance from the farmers to this condition. However, considering the utility of the programme, the Government of Maharashtra has now revised the guidelines and contribution from the farmers is reduced to 5%.

Amendment of Milk and Milk Product Order, 1992

1705. SHRI RAM NATH KOVIND:
SHRI RAJNATH SINGH 'SURYA':
DR. RANBIR SINGH:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are considering to amend the existing Milk and Milk Product Order, 1992 for ensuring increased private investment in dairy industry;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the per-capita milk consumption in our country as compared to that of China, Taiwan and Denmark?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) and (b) The matter is under examination.

(c) Comparisons of per capita milk consumption are not available. Per capita milk availability (1996-97) per day (gms) is as follows:

India	201
China	20
Taiwan	44
Denmark	2500

Rice Production in Gujarat

1706. SHRI AHMED PATEL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Gujarat, despite being a low productivity State for rice, still grows nearly one million tonnes of rice every year;

(b) if so, the details of rice produced by the State during the last three years, year-wise; and

(c) what incentives are being given by Central and State Governments to farmers of Gujarat to increase production and productivity of rice in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details of rice production in Gujarat State during 1994-95 to 1996-97 and the likely production during 1997-98 is given in the table below:—

Year	Rice Production (In Million Tonnes)
1994-95	0.94
1995-96	0.83
1996-97	0.95
1997-98	1.04

(c) To support the efforts of the State Government in increasing the productivity and production of cereal crops like rice, wheat, barley and millet, a Centrally Sponsored Integrated Cereals Development Programme in Coarse Cereal Based Cropping System areas (ICDP-CC) is under implementation. The emphasis under ICDP-CC is laid on the cropping system for improvement of